Import of LNG

3007. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the imports of LNG are in jeopardy from any country recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some companies have refused to supply compressors;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken in this direction to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (e) On 13 June 2005 GAIL (India) Limited (GAIL), Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) signed a Sale-Purchase Agreement (SPA) in Tehran with the National Iranian Gas Export Company (NIGEC) for the supply of 5 MMTPA of LNG from the last quarter of 2009.

There were news reports to the effect that the General Electric (GE) company had refused to supply crucial equipment for the LNG project to Iran, and that, as a consequence, Iran might not be in position to fulfil its commitment to supply the agreed LNG quantities to India. The Iranian authorities have re-affirmed that the agreement with India on LNG supply is valid and will be fully implemented on schedule.

Waiting List for LPG in Punjab

3008. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connections in Punjab as on date, district-wise; and

(b) by when the list is likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a)and(b)As on 01.12.2005,awaiting list of 23,047 persons has developed in various districts of Punjab owing to a temporary LPG shortage in the country since September 2005. The district-wise

details are enclosed statement, (see below). While because of this temporary shortage, Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) had restricted the release of new connections since September 2005, with the improvement in supply situation, largely on account of the restoration of production in RIL's refinery effective 1.12.2005, they have resumed the release of new connections from 1st December 2005 onwards. The situation is likely to improve and normalize in the next few weeks.

Statement

District-wise waiting list in Punjab with the LPG distributors of OMCs as on 01.12.2005.

Sl.No.	District	Numbers
1.	Amritsar	1,930
2.	Bathinda	976
3.	Faridkot	412
4.	Fatehgarh Sahib	423
5.	Ferbzepur	1,038
6.	Gurdaspur	1,457
7.	Hoshiarpur	721
8.	Jalandhar	1,472
9.	Kapurthala	724
10.	Ludhiana	6,687
11.	Mansa	390
12.	Moga	432
13.	Muktsar	246
14.	Nawanshahr	1,286
15.	Patiala	891
16.	Ropar	2,422
17.	Sangrur	996
18.	Rup Nagar	544
	TOTAL:	23,047